

# The Kansas City Journal.

VOLUME XLII. NO. 84.

SATURDAY.

KANSAS CITY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1899.—TEN PAGES.

SATURDAY.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## BROWN OF KANSAS AND BROWN OF KENTUCKY ARE UNLIKE—THE KENTUCKIAN IS NO QUITTER

### HE ASKS DIVORCE

SUIT MRS. ROY T. OFFUTT FEARED WAS BROUGHT YESTERDAY.

### SHE "ENDANGERED HIS LIFE"

THIS UNUSUAL ALLEGATION MADE IN PETITION.

Her Attempt at Suicide Did Not Deter the Filing of the Papers—Mrs. Offutt Has Nearly Recovered From the Poison's Effects.

As a climax to the domestic troubles which led to the attempt of Mrs. Roy T. Offutt, of 217 Olive street, to commit suicide Thursday evening, her husband filed suit for a divorce in the circuit court yesterday. It was his preparation to bring the suit that led to her attempt at suicide.

In his petition Mr. Offutt makes a very peculiar and unusual charge. He says that they were married in Los Angeles, Cal., April 20 last, and that they lived together until August 21. He has always treated her with kindness and affection, he says, but she has been guilty of such treatment as to endanger his life. What he means by this he and his lawyer refuse to divulge. The case will be tried at the October term of court.

Mrs. Offutt's last effort to end her life caused her a severe but short illness and last night she was almost completely recovered. Her physician, Dr. W. F. Kuhn, spent several hours with her yesterday, not leaving her until she was completely out of danger.

Mrs. Offutt was Mrs. Dolly Sheffield when she met Offutt and had been divorced from her husband. She had two children by her former marriage, a boy of 8 and a girl of 3. Offutt seems to have made no objection to the children at the time of his marriage, but later on they were the cause of many disagreements. The trouble began with a week after the couple left Los Angeles for Kansas City and with few intermissions it has continued until the climax was reached yesterday.

At her home Mrs. Offutt said she was driven to the attempt at suicide by the ill treatment she had received. The charges in her husband's petition, she said, were untrue. She said she had been a faithful and loving wife.

Roy T. Offutt is the son of H. C. Offutt, of the H. C. Offutt Live Stock Commission Company, at the stock yards. He is secretary of the firm.

### TO GRADE EIGHTH STREET.

Great Changes May Be Made in Thoroughfares Near the Federal Buildings.

It measures that will be introduced next Monday night are adopted by the council there will be some radical changes in the topography of the streets in the vicinity of the new custom house before next spring. A similar attempt was made three years ago, but failed owing to a lack of interest and not on account of any determined opposition.

Alfred Brown is now preparing resolutions to change and re-establish the grades on Eighth street. It was also contemplated to try to change the grade on Ninth street from Grand avenue to Oak, but this idea has been abandoned and only the two first named streets will be included in the resolutions.

The grading on Eighth street will be in the nature of a six and one-half foot cut at McGee, and as ordinances have already been passed on the grading of the street from Grand avenue to Oak street, this would leave McGee street between Seventh and Ninth up in the air, so it will also be necessary to change the grade on that part of that street.

When this is done, the grading of the hill at the corner of Eleventh and McGee is completed, that way, will leave the same grade as Grand avenue, running to an apex at Ninth street, with a gradual descent on either side.

There will be no difficulty in grading Eighth street on account of the street car tracks, as the tracks are on the north side of the street, and the grading will be done on the south side.

The lowing ordinance for the paving of Eighth street is intended to have the grade changed before this paving is begun.

### DEATH OF W. J. FETTER.

Well Known Insurance Man Died at St. Joseph's Hospital—A Pioneer.

W. J. Fetter, who has been seriously sick at St. Joseph's hospital for several weeks, died at 3 o'clock this morning. Mr. Fetter was secretary of the Kansas City Underwriters' Association, and was well known in this city.

Away back in the '60s, when the Mississippi and Missouri rivers were covered with steamboats, Mr. Fetter was one of the best known marine insurance men in the West. He represented companies that carried risks on millions of dollars worth of steamboat property. When river traffic began to decrease, Mr. Fetter went South, where he was also engaged in the insurance business, and in 1884 moved to St. Joseph.

He came to Kansas City in 1882 and was made secretary of the Kansas City Underwriters' Association, which position he has held ever since. His appointment to this office, while made by the local association, was through the influence of all the companies affiliated with the association. In 1887 he was made state ratifier by the association, and he has since that time been a part of the association.

It is said that there has never been a bull fight with real Mexican pitador in the United States. It was the intention of the gentlemen to have an ordinance passed by the council granting permission to give such an exhibition. The proposition was refused, but the reason was not given.

Meers, Brown and Meeker are interested in the Sorora, Mining and Milling Company, with headquarters in Guaymas, Mexico. The stockholders are Kansas City, St. Joseph and Lafayette, Ind., parties.

HOTEL BALTIMORE, new, perfectly appointed and fire proof without a doubt.

### SEIBERT NOT A CANDIDATE.

Says He Is for Dockery and That He Will Not Be Excise Commissioner.

JEFFERSON CITY, Sept. 1.—(Special.) State Auditor Seibert, to-day, on being asked whether or not he would be a candidate for office in 1900, replied most emphatically that he would not. Said he: "I have frequently expressed my determination to retire from public life at the conclusion of my official term, and I now desire to emphasize that purpose by this public declaration."

"I am glad to say that I am for Dockery for governor, and that, in the event of his election, you will be appointed excise commissioner of St. Louis. What have you to say on that subject?"

"I am glad to say that I am for Dockery for governor, and that, in the event of his election, you will be appointed excise commissioner of St. Louis. What have you to say on that subject?"

### RETURNING TO WASHINGTON.

President McKinley and Party Left Canton Last Night on Their Special Train.

CANTON, O., Sept. 1.—To an accompaniment of enthusiastic cheers from the large crowd that thronged the station platform, the special train bearing President and Mrs. McKinley steamed out of Canton at 9 o'clock to-night. The president from the rear platform bowed his acknowledgments for the kindly demonstration. The train goes direct to Washington over the Pennsylvania lines and is due to arrive at 1 p. m. Saturday.

Dr. Riker expressed his belief that Mrs. McKinley is rapidly recovering from her indisposition of a month or so, although her state of health while here was such that she could see but few people. While in Pittsburgh, she received such a shock from the continuous firing of a cannon at the side of the car as to give her a setback for the time being.

During the morning, the president left the residence and went to the city hall, where he was met by a large crowd of people. He was seen to be in good health and spirits.

### ARCHBISHOP INTERVENES.

Appeals to French Premier in Behalf of M. Guerin, the Anti-Semite Agitator.

PARIS, Sept. 1.—Cardinal Richard, archbishop of Paris, paid a visit to-day to the premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, on behalf of M. Jules Guerin, the anti-Semite agitator, who has been expelled from the Chamber of Deputies. The cardinal expressed his sincere sympathy for the French government and urged a peaceful solution of the difficulty.

The premier, while expressing his sense of the value of the cardinal's visit, said that he could not take any action on the matter. He said that the law must prevail.

### SAMPSON TO BE RELIEVED.

He Will Relinquish Command of North Atlantic Squadron After Dewey's Return.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—At the conclusion of the Dewey celebration at New York, Admiral Sampson will be relieved of the command of the North Atlantic Squadron. The command will be turned over to Admiral Dewey upon his return.

### LAST "1812" VETERAN DEAD.

He Was Hiram Cronk, of Ava, N. Y.—Four Revolutionary Widows Still Alive.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Although Hiram Cronk, of Ava, N. Y., aged 99, is still carried on the pension rolls, press dispatches recently announced his death. He was the last surviving soldier of the war of 1812, and the oldest pensioner. He served forty days in the fall of 1814 in the New York militia. Of the four Revolutionary widows still drawing pensions, the youngest is Mrs. Mary Rhead, of Parkersburg, Va. She is now 83 years old. She was born in 1816, or thirty-three years after the treaty of peace with Great Britain. Assuming that her husband was 20 years old at the date of the treaty, he was 63 years old when his wife was born, and if she was 17 at the date of their marriage he was 70.

### Silver Service for the Marietta.

BOSTON, Sept. 1.—Governor Bushnell, of Ohio, in behalf of the citizens of Marietta, presented a silver service to the gunboat Marietta, at the Charlestown navy yard to-day. Governor Bushnell was accompanied by a delegation of Marietta citizens.

### Heavy Rains in Porto Rico.

PONCE, PORTO RICO, Sept. 1.—Heavy rains have caused an unusual freshet and the people, frightened on account of the recent hurricane, are leaving their houses and are being quartered in the public buildings. The soldiers, police and firemen work all night. The floods are impassable, but no further serious damage has been done.

### Large South Rooms at the WELLINGTON.

Shirts that Fit U. S. 124 to 184. Harry B. Woolf, Quartermaster, 119 Main.

### HIS SALARY HELD

WASHBURN WILL DRAW NO PAY FROM THE CITY.

CITY COUNSELOR SO ADVISES.

COMPTROLLER LUND WILL REFUSE TO CERTIFY.

Still Another Complication in the Election Commissioners' Squabble—It Will Probably Give Rise to Fresh Court Proceedings.

C. E. Washburn, Republican election commissioner, will draw no money from the city treasury until such time as the supreme court has decided whether he or Joseph Harris is entitled to the office. This does not mean until October 11, when the court will hear argument on the issuance of a permanent writ of prohibition, but until a decision has been reached in the quo warranto proceedings that will be instituted by the Republican city central committee as soon as the present proceedings end.

City Comptroller Hans Lund applied to City Counselor Middlebrook yesterday for advice on the subject and was given a written opinion by the latter as to the action he should take.

Mr. Middlebrook after reciting that part of the Cardwell act which governs the raise in salaries of two of the election commissioners, and the fact that the court has decided whether he or Joseph Harris is entitled to the office, said that it would be within his power and duty to withhold payment of the salary of the office to either of the claimants.

The Republican election commissioner gets \$250 a year, one-half of which is paid by the city and one-half by the county. On Monday next the council will pass the regular monthly appropriation ordinance which includes the items of the salaries of election commissioners and clerks. This ordinance has to be certified to by the comptroller before it is passed and when referred to him he will refuse to certify to that part of it appropriating \$125 to pay the city's half of the Republican election commissioner's salary. The same course will be pursued at each monthly appropriation until the contest has been ended by a final decision of the courts as to who is legally entitled to the office.

It was at first proposed to withhold part of the salary of Commissioner Lipscomb also, on the ground that the board had not been legally reorganized and that in consequence he was not entitled to the raise from \$50 to \$250 a year authorized by the Cardwell law, but later the conclusion was reached to confine all tests of the law to Mr. Washburn. Under the new law the board makes out its own warrants instead of having them made out by the city auditor, but of course, can draw no money from the city treasurer when the city comptroller refuses to certify to the appropriation.

It is not expected Mr. Washburn will wait until the contest started by the Republican city central committee has terminated before he will take any action. The same proceedings to compel the city to pay him his salary. Even if this is done, it is also a question as to whether the city should pay him his salary or not. It is also a question as to whether the city should pay him his salary or not.

Most of the big implement houses in the West bottoms have decided to close down. There will also be a general closing up of the freight houses. Other local houses have announced their intention of closing.

Building operations will practically cease for almost every union carpenter, bricklayer, iron worker and mason in the city will march, and even if contractors wanted to go on with their work there will be no one to do it. In addition many of the local unions have arranged for picnics that will attract all who do not care to appear in the parade.

### FINAL LABOR DAY PLANS.

They Will Be Formed at the Last Meeting of the Committee at Headquarters To-night.

The final meeting of the Labor day committee will be held to-night at Labor headquarters for the purpose of completing preparations for the parade Monday. The indications are that there will be more than the usual observation of labor's annual holiday and a general closing down of many classes of business. The largest turnout for the parade will be one of the largest ever seen in the city.

Most of the big implement houses in the West bottoms have decided to close down. There will also be a general closing up of the freight houses. Other local houses have announced their intention of closing.

Building operations will practically cease for almost every union carpenter, bricklayer, iron worker and mason in the city will march, and even if contractors wanted to go on with their work there will be no one to do it. In addition many of the local unions have arranged for picnics that will attract all who do not care to appear in the parade.

### Heavy Rains in Porto Rico.

PONCE, PORTO RICO, Sept. 1.—Heavy rains have caused an unusual freshet and the people, frightened on account of the recent hurricane, are leaving their houses and are being quartered in the public buildings. The soldiers, police and firemen work all night. The floods are impassable, but no further serious damage has been done.

### Large South Rooms at the WELLINGTON.

Shirts that Fit U. S. 124 to 184. Harry B. Woolf, Quartermaster, 119 Main.

### FEVER AT NEW ORLEANS.

One Death From the Annual Scourge Yesterday and Two Other Cases.

AUSTIN, TEX., Sept. 1.—The state health department to-night received information of one death from yellow fever at New Orleans this afternoon. States Health Officer Blunt at once ordered a rigid quarantine against New Orleans on passenger and freight business, to continue indefinitely, and all border stations were notified to refuse admission to any person or freight from that port.

MOBILE, ALA., Sept. 1.—Owing to one death by yellow fever in New Orleans and two other cases declared there, Mobile city authorities proclaimed to-night a strict quarantine against New Orleans. The night train from New Orleans was prohibited from discharging New Orleans passengers here. A detention camp will be established to-morrow. Quarantine is also proclaimed against Key West.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Sept. 1.—The state board of health has received a report of the death of a man at Vincennes from yellow fever. The man had lately returned from Cuba, and when he reached New York was permitted to come on to this state. The doctors pronounced the case yellow fever, the patient having all the symptoms even to turning yellow and having the black vomit. His name was not given.

### LEE FAVORS INDEPENDENCE.

Makes a Report Recommending a President, Vice President and Congress for Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—General Fitzhugh Lee has made an elaborate report on prevailing conditions in the territory in Cuba under his jurisdiction, and takes strong ground for an independent government for the Cubans under an American protectorate.

General Lee evidently foresees that, while the United States might provide Cuba with a model system of government, the natives would be likely to spoil it in the administration, and has submitted suggestions for keeping the government machinery running along lines that commend themselves to the American mind. He says the United States should keep a strict supervision over Cuba until its republican government is completed and firmly established.

Even after relieving the Cubans in part of the burden of protecting the island, United States troops maintained in the island to protect Americans and other aliens in the island, and to protect their personal and property rights.

### LOOKS MUCH LIKE MURDER.

Arsenic Found in Stomach of an Old Man Who Died at Jefferson City.

JEFFERSON CITY, MO., Sept. 1.—(Special.) Yesterday Matthew K. Cope, an old man, died in this city after a brief illness and without medical attention. He was well known character and to-day suspicion was aroused by so peculiar conditions and circumstances that the coroner took charge of the body. The coroner, assisted by Dr. R. E. Clark, made a post mortem examination of the body and found arsenic in the old man's stomach to kill ten men. The coroner's report has not yet been completed, but it is expected that the case will be referred to the grand jury.

The woman is weak minded. Cope was the father of Andrew Cope, a well known Missouri Pacific passenger engineer.

### KICKED HIS SISTER TO DEATH.

Halfbreed Indian Commits Murder to Prevent an Objectionable Wedding.

COPPETVILLE, KAN., Sept. 1.—Joseph Martin killed his 14-year-old sister in death yesterday at the Martin farm on Big Creek. In the Indian Territory, twenty miles southeast of this city, Martin is a halfbreed Indian and became engaged to a girl named Albert Ball. The murder occurred about 6 o'clock and Martin immediately fled and is still at large. There is talk of lynching him when he is captured. The wedding of Ball to the Martin girl was to occur this week. The Martin family is quite prominent and wealthy.

### ILLINOIS BANDIT SHOT.

Train Crew Resisted an Attempt at Robbery at Lincoln Last Night.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Sept. 1.—Word was received here late to-night to the effect that a Peoria, Decatur & Evansville train had been held up by robbers at Lincoln, Ill., last night. The robbers were armed with revolvers and shotguns. The train crew resisted the attempt at robbery and the robbers fled. The train was delayed for some time.

### Incompetent Officials Dropped.

BERLIN, Sept. 1.—The Berliner Correspondenz says the Prussian government has temporarily suspended and placed on half pay a number of Prussian administrative officials on the ground that, under the present circumstances, they "do not adequately meet the high requirements demanded in the interest of public service."

### Captain Tausig Relieved.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Edward D. Tausig has been relieved of command of the gunboat Bennington, by order of Admiral Watson, and ordered home from Manila. He is said to have differed with the admiral as to the management of the fleet, and his criticisms led to the action above noted.

### BRIEF BITS OF NEWS.

The postoffice at Kemp, Pettis county, Mo. will be discontinued, mail to Newland.

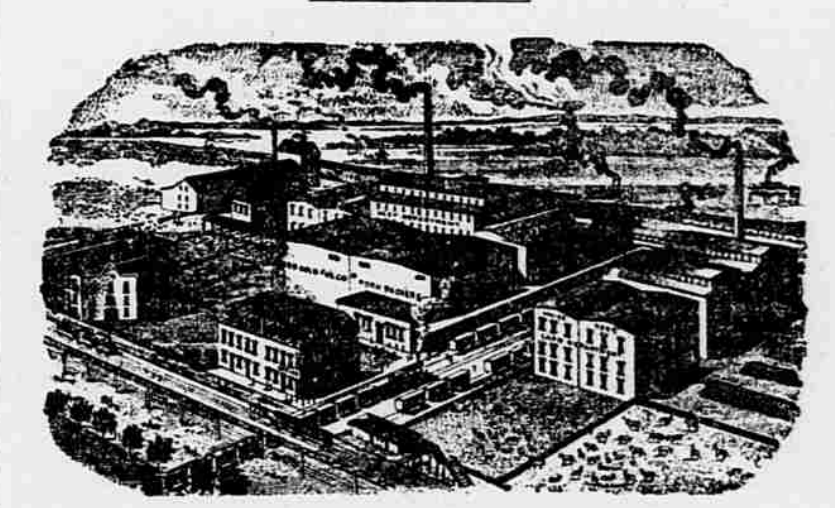
Rural free delivery service will be established at Washburn college, Topeka, on September 5. William R. Comstock is appointed the regular carrier and William M. Jack substitute. The following postoffices will be discontinued because of service: Seabright, Quilton heights, Wamaker, and York.

In the early stage of the fire it was seen that the northern part of the big west wing could not be saved and the firemen's efforts were directed to keep the flames from setting fire to the other parts of the plant.

From the nature of the configuration and

## BIG FIRE AT DOLD'S

One of Kansas City's Great Packing Plants Is Threatened With Complete Destruction.



Fire Was Discovered at 12:45 This Morning, and at 3 o'clock Was Not Yet Under Control.

## WATER PRESSURE IS WEAK

Originated in Fertilizing Department Explosion Aids in Spreading the Fire—Two Firemen in Peril.

The material burning, the heat was almost unbearable within 100 feet of the burning part of the building.

Thick, white smoke, heavy with a most repulsive odor, rolled northward from the burning building, leaving a train of sparks for a quarter of a mile towards the Kaw river. The plant, fortunately, is situated near the river, without any intervening buildings, or these would surely have gone.

As it was, the cars on tracks fully 200 feet from the fire caught and fences, shanties and small buildings generally to the north of the plant were burned.

Other Buildings in Danger. The plant of the Kansas City Ice and Cold Storage Company, consisting of several large wooden and brick buildings, was in momentary danger of catching fire and had the wind turned a single point to the eastward this plant would have been doomed.

Hundreds of men employed by the Dold Company were about the plant, willing and anxious to render any possible assistance, but beyond the removal of office fixtures and records, they could do little. They stood helplessly by while the big plant burned and on every side were heard words of sorrow and sympathy.

The Dold packing plant is in the shape of a huge letter H. It was the northwest limb of the H in which the fire had started. By 2 o'clock, although burning fiercely all the time, the flames had been confined to this portion of the plant. At 2 o'clock it was seen that the eight engines in the engine rooms were entirely destroyed and the fire was rapidly nearing the tremendous oil tanks, with their combustible contents. A terrific explosion was momentarily expected.

### Suffering of Cattle.

A huge tank of ammonia was reached almost at a giant hop of oil. A moment the great tank fired and sizzled in the writhing flames and suddenly, with a report like a battery of artillery, it exploded, carrying into the air a great part of the roof of the plant. The great, excited crowd that had gathered to watch the progress of the fire swayed back from the building and it was reported that two of the firemen had toppled from the roof into the seething flames. Two firemen had suddenly disappeared from the roof, at least, and nobody knew what had become of them.

As the fire progressed the firemen were in momentary expectation of explosions of oil tanks which stood on flimsy scaffolding of charred woodwork, the walls having fallen away from them, leaving them fully exposed to the flames, which beat about their bases like waves of an angry sea. On these tanks several streams of water were kept playing, and this materially reduced the number of streams at critical points, where the fire was reaching out after wooden runways and loading platforms.

In the early stage of the fire it was seen that the northern part of the big west wing could not be saved and the firemen's efforts were directed to keep the flames from setting fire to the other parts of the plant.

From the nature of the configuration and

burning debris and below great flames shot upward half a hundred feet.

### Effects of Explosion.

The explosion carried away a portion of an east wall and the combined roar sounded like explosions of cannon in quick succession.

The black smoke gave way to the sickening yellow fumes that came from the burning meats and oils.

Effort to save any part of the fertilizing engine, oil, lard and hog killing rooms was now abandoned, and the firemen turned their attention to keeping the flames from the coalers, which were immediately south of the first set of rooms and separated as before stated by a two foot wall. This wall was pierced in many places by holes for truck alleys, belting, shafting and ammonia cooling pipes, and they made it difficult to protect it. Had this wall been intact the flames might have been easily combated. The firemen had occupied the roof of this building as a vantage point from which to fight the flames in the adjoining building.

### Saving the Books.

At 3 o'clock the flames had reached the beef cooler. There were 500 beefs dressed and hanging there ready for shipment, besides hundreds of sheep and hogs.

The packing plant has a tremendous capacity, and has been handling about the following amounts daily: Beef, 500; hogs, 2,000; sheep, 3,000.

Momentarily the flames spread farther toward the interior of the building. The streams of water poured upon them seemed to be licked up and evaporated like the puny streams from a flower pot. The firemen went right up to the molten mass and worked like demons, in heat that was insufferable at a distance of many feet. But all their efforts still seemed to be of no avail.

In beef room No. 4 were all the valuable books and records of the company. When the fire reached beef room No. 3 adjoining it, an entrance into No. 4 was made and some of the books were carried out.

By this time young Mr. Jacob Dold had arrived on the scene and dashed about frantically. His men and employees soon gathered about him and he issued orders rapidly, sending groups of men now here and now there.

### Suffering of Cattle.

A herd of live cattle were penned up within reach of the terrific heat and were rushing around in their pens in a pitiful way. Happening to think of these, Mr. Dold ordered a detachment of his men to go and release them.

As it happened, J. C. Dold was absent in Canada, and Charles Dold was at Fairmount park.

Word was got to him by telephone and he reached the fire soon after 2 o'clock.

### Charles Dold Talks.

Charles J. Dold, the only member of the firm, who is not out of town, was at Fairmount park when he first heard of the fire. The cars had stopped two hours before and Mr. Dold drove all the way from the park in less than an hour. Mr. Dold reached the fire completely exhausted and hastened through the portions of the plant that were not on fire.

"I have no idea what the loss will be," said Mr. Dold. "I have been unable to estimate our loss, but it seems to me that from present indications we cannot save much."

### When do you expect to be able to re-open?" was asked.

"It will be some months, as our engines are entirely destroyed," said Mr. Dold. "The warehouses are the only portions of the building that we expect to save," said Mr. Dold at 2 a. m.

"We cannot estimate the loss until the books can be examined, but at present the outlook is most discouraging. We cannot reopen until new machinery is installed."

### Defective Water Supply.

The water supply came from a small eight-inch main on Ninth street and when four engines were attached the pressure was inadequate. Several employees of the water department were at the fire, but they were not authorized to issue orders to the pumping stations. The employees who were on the scene looked in vain for Superintendent Longwell, but he could not be found. The standpipes that were the property of the company, could not be used and the two large water towers were not called upon.